## IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An illumination system, comprising a radiation source and a fluorescent material comprising at least one phosphor capable of absorbing a part of light emitted by the radiation source and emitting visible light of wavelength different from that of the absorbed light; wherein said at least one phosphor is an oxido-nitrido-silicate of general formula

 $EA_{2-z}Si_{5-a}B_aN_{8-a}O_a:Ln_z$ , wherein  $0 < z \le 1$  and 0 < a < 5,

comprising at least one element EA selected from the group consisting of Mg, Ca, Ba and Zn and at least one element B selected from the group consisting of Ga and In, and being activated by a lanthanide selected from the group consisting of cerium, europium, terbium, praseodymium and mixtures thereof.

2. (Previously Presented) The illumination system according to claim 1,

wherein the fluorescent material comprises a red phosphor having a general formula of  $EA_{2-z}Si_{5-a}B_aN_{8-a}O_a:Ln_z$ , wherein  $0< z \le 1$  and 0< a< 5 and a green or yellow phosphor.

3. (Previously Presented) The illumination system according to claim 1,

wherein a green or yellow phosphor is selected from the group of

MS:Eu,Ce,Cu comprising at least one element selected from the group M = Mg, Ca, Sr, and Zn;

 $MN_2S_4$ : Eu, Ce comprising of at least one element selected from the group M = Mg, Ca, Sr, and Zn at least one element selected from the group N = Al, Ga, In, Y, La, Gd,

 $(\text{Re}_{1-r}\text{Sm}_r)_3 (\text{Al}_{1-s}\text{Gas})_5 \text{O}_{12} : \text{Ce, where 0} \leq r < 1 \text{ and 0} \leq s \leq 1 \text{ and }$  Re selected from Y, Lu, Sc, La and Gd

and  $(Ba_{1-x-y-z}Sr_xCa_y)_2SiO_4:Eu_z$ , wherein  $0\le x\le 1$ ,  $0\le \le 1$  and

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0 < z < 1.

Claim 4 (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The illumination system according to claim 1,

wherein said radiation source comprises a nitride compound semiconductor represented by the general formula  $In_iGa_iAl_kN$ , where  $0 \le i \le 1$ ,  $0 \le j \le 1$ ,  $0 \le k \le 1$  and i+j+k=1.

Claim 6 (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The illumination system according to claim 1,

wherein the system is a traffic sign.

8. (Previously Presented) A phosphor capable of absorbing a part of light emitted by the radiation source and emitting visible light of wavelength different from that of the absorbed light;

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wherein said at least one phosphor is an oxido-nitrido-silicate of general formula

 $EA_{2-z}Si_{5-a}B_aN_{8-a}O_a:Ln_z$ , wherein 0 < z  $\leq$  1 and 0 < a < 5 comprising at least one element EA selected from the group consisting of Mg, Ca, Ba and Zn and at least one element B selected from the group consisting of Ga and In, and being activated with a lanthanide selected from the group consisting of cerium, europium, terbium and mixtures thereof.

Claims 9-10 (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A phosphor capable of absorbing a part of light emitted by the radiation source and emitting light of wavelength different from that of the absorbed light; wherein said at least one phosphor is of general formula

$$Sr_{1.96}Si_3Al_2N_6O_2:Eu_{0.04}.$$

12. (Previously Presented) The phosphor according to claim 8, wherein silicon is substituted by germanium.

13. (Previously Presented) An illumination system comprising a radiation source and a fluorescent material comprising at least one phosphor capable of absorbing a part of light emitted by the radiation source and emitting visible light of wavelength different from that of the absorbed light; wherein said at least one phosphor is an oxido-nitrido-silicate of general formula

 $EA_{2-z}Si_{5-a}B_aN_{8-a}O_a : Ln_z , \ \, \text{wherein 0 < z \le 1 and 0 < a < 5}$  comprising at least one element EA selected from a group of Mg and Zn and at least one element B selected from a group of Ga and In, and being activated by a lanthanide selected from a group of cerium, terbium, praseodymium and mixtures thereof.}

Claim 14 (Canceled)

15.(Previously Presented) The illumination system of claim 13, wherein the fluorescent material comprises a red phosphor having a general formula of  $EA_{2-z}Si_{5-a}B_aN_{8-a}O_a:Ln_z$ , wherein  $0< z \le 1$  and 0< a< 5 and a green or yellow phosphor.

16.(Previously Presented) The illumination system of claim

15, wherein the green or yellow phosphor is selected from the group

MS:Eu,Ce,Cu comprising at least one element selected from a group M = Mg, Ca, Sr, and Zn;

 $MN_2S_4$ :Eu,Ce comprising of at least one element selected from a group M = Mg, Ca, Sr, and Zn at least one element selected from a group N = Al, Ga, In, Y, La, Gd,

 $\left(\text{Re}_{1-r}\text{Sm}_r\right)_3 \left(\text{Al}_{1-s}\text{Gas}\right)_5 \text{O}_{12} \colon \text{Ce, where 0} \leq r < 1 \text{ and 0} \leq s \leq 1 \text{ and}$  Re selected from Y, Lu, Sc, La and Gd,

and  $(Ba_{1-x-y-z}Sr_xCa_y)_zSiO_4:Eu_z$ , wherein  $0\le x\le 1$ ,  $0\le \le 1$  and 0< z< 1.

17. (Previously Presented) The illumination system of claim 13, wherein the radiation source comprises a nitride compound semiconductor represented by the general formula  ${\rm In_iGa_jAl_kN}$ , where  $0\le i\le 1$ ,  $0\le j\le 1$ ,  $0\le k\le 1$  and i+j+k=1.

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18.(Previously Presented) The illumination system of claim

13, wherein the system is a traffic sign.